

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /084 W

-----065058 251455Z /46

R 251148Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8170

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 3646

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SF

SUBJ: PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE: VIEW OF MP DAWIE DE VILLIERS

REF: A) PRETORIA 3418, B) PRETORIA 3425

1. AT DINNER JULY 21, DAWIE DE VILLIERS, NATIONAL PARTY MP FOR JOHANNESBURG WEST TOLD CONSUL GENERAL JOHNSON IN JOHANNESBURG THAT HE BELIEVED CABINET COMMITTEE OF SIX WORKING ON PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE HAD ALREADY COMPLETED ITS WORK. HE UNDERSTOOD ITS MANDATE EXTENDED, AT VERY LEAST, TO (1) POSSIBLE PRESCRIPTION DECISION-MAKING POWERS FOR COUNCIL OF STATE (COMPRISING THREE CABINETS OF WHITES, COLOREDS, AND INDIANS) AND (2) DELINEATION THOSE AREAS WHERE SUCH POWERS TO BE OPERABLE. (HE WAS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH TERM COUNCIL OF STATE, BUT DID NOT OFFER SUBSTITUTE.) HIS PERSONAL CONVICTION WAS THAT COUNCIL HAD TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT DECISION-MAKING POWER, NOT MERELY ADVISORY ROLE, SINCE IT IS EMINENTLY CLEAR THAT COLOREDS, AT LEAST, WOULD ACCEPT NOTHING LESS.

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LABOR PARTY, OF COURSE, HAD LONG INDICATED ITS WISH FOR COMMON ROLL AND SINGLE PARLIAMENT, WHICH WERE FAR OUT OF BOUNDS FOR ALL NATIONALISTS. SEPARATE GROUP AREAS FOR COLOREDS AND INDIANS WERE NOT ON, EITHER.

2. DE VILLIERS SAID HE THOUGHT THAT CABINET COMMITTEE

WOULD SURFACE SOME PROPOSAL FOR STRENGTHENING
PRESIDENCY AND THAT IT WOULD NOT REMAIN PURELY
"SYMBOLIC" OFFICE.
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770722/aaaaatcj.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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